

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MBABAN 01974 261103Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02 /076 W

-----079351 261107Z /15

R 260730Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2324

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MBABANE 1974

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, WZ

SUBJECT: REFUGEE REPORT

REF: MBABANE 1480

FOLLOWING INFO ON REFUGEE SITUATION IN SWAZILAND WAS OBTAINED  
FROM EMBASSY MEETING JULY 25 WITH UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE  
VEENBAAS:

1. NUMBER OF SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEES REGISTERED WITH UNHCR  
REMAINS ABOUT FIFTY. THIS REFLECTS TRICKLE INTO SWAZILAND  
COMPENSATED FOR BY DEPARTURES OF SMALL GROUPS HEADED FOR  
TANZANIA, E.G., DEPARTURE OF SIX ON JULY 18 AND SEVEN ON  
PLANE THREE WEEKS EARLIER.

2. INFLOW HAS "DECREASED REMARKABLY" ACCORDING TO VEENBAAS.  
HE CONFIRMS EMBASSY'S VIEW THAT INTENSIFIED SOUTH AFRICAN  
BORDER PATROLS, PRIMARILY AIMED AT PREVENTING RE-ENTRY OF  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MBABAN 01974 261103Z

QUERILLA-TRAINED REFUGEES, ARE EFFECTIVELY HINDERING  
UNAUTHORIZED DEPARTURE OF PERSONS FROM SOUTH AFRICA INTO  
SWAZILAND.

3. HOST GOVERNMENT REMAINS FIRM ON POLICY OF MINIMIZING  
CONTACT BETWEEN REFUGEES AND SWAZI STUDENTS. FOR  
EXAMPLE, VEENBAAS INDEPENDENTLY OBTAINED TENTATIVE

APPROVAL BY A SECONDARY-SCHOOL HEADMASTER TO ACCEPT THE SEVEN REFUGEE STUDENTS FOR WHOM MENNONITE-PROVIDED SCHOOLING NOT AVAILABLE; MENNONITES TEACH ONLY THROUGH FROM THREE, I.E., NINTH GRADE. GOS WAS DISPLEASED WITH VEENBAAS' INITIATIVE AND RECONFIRMED TO HIM ITS POLICY OF NOT ALLOWING REFUGEE STUDENTS INTO SWAZI SCHOOLS. THIS IS PARTICULARLY DISAPPOINTING IN VIEW OF FACT THAT VEENBAAS HAD ARRANGED FOR PLACEMENT TO BE AS LITTLE BURDEN ON SCHOOL AS POSSIBLE, WITH REFUGEES TO BE DAY-STUDENTS AND NOT BOARDING-STUDENTS.

4. VEENBAAS HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING FIVE REFUGEES INTO UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SWAZILAND FOR FORTHCOMING ACADEMIC YEAR. AS FOR GOS' VAGUELY EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT FIFTY STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITY, IF EXTRA COSTS ARE FUNDED EXTERNALLY, VEENBAAS REQUESTED UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR TO PREPARE BREAKDOWN OF EXTRA COSTS INVOLVED (DORMITORY SPACE, SOME EXTRA TEACHERS, ETC.). HOWEVER, VEENBAAS HAS BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN GETTING ANYONE IN HOST GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE BREAKDOWN, WHICH NECESSARY BEFORE IT CAN BE FORWARDED TO UNHCR/GENEVA AS GOS REQUEST.

5. ON THE SCHOOL-HOSTEL PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN FARAH MISSION REPORT, BALL IS IN THE COURT OF SWAZILAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, WHICH IS CONSIDERING AT LEAST PARTIAL FUNDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MBABAN 01974 261103Z

FOR THE SCHOOL PORTION. ONCE CHURCH ACTION HAS BEEN FINALIZED, GOS AND UNHCR CAN PROCEED TO CONSIDER HOSTEL ACTIVITY.

6. VEENBAAS SAID GIRLS' MORALE, WHICH HAD BEEN VERY LOW FOR LONG PERIOD, HAS IMPROVED FOLLOWING THEIR REMOVAL FROM WOMEN'S PRISON AND COMMENCEMENT OF THEIR SCHOOLING UNDER MENNONITE AUSPICES. ACCORDING TO HIM, ALL GIRLS NOW WANT TO REMAIN IN SWAZILAND.

7. TO IMPROVE MORALE OF REFUGEES, CHARGE HAS HELD TWO FILM SHOWINGS EXCLUSIVELY FOR THEM IN USIS LIBRARY IN RECENT WEEKS. GOS APPROVAL OF STUDENT ATTENDANCE HAS BEEN IMPLICIT IN ITS PROVISION OF TRANSPORTATION FOR REFUGEES FROM DORMITORIES TO USIS AND RETURN. GIVEN HOST GOVERNMENT SENSITIVITIES, THIS KIND OF ACTIVITY IS MAXIMUM AMERICAN COMMUNITY EFFORT THAT WE AND VEENBAAS DEEM JUDICIOUS AT THIS STAGE.  
WACHOB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, REPORTS, BORDER CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MBABAN01974  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770265-1314  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MBABANE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770719/aaaaapvh.tel  
**Line Count:** 112  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 3aea0d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MBABANE 1480  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1747573  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REFUGEE REPORT  
**TAGS:** SREF, WZ, SF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/3aea0d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009